

FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

February, 2010
Issue #21

Peter Kasin, Park Ranger
Editor / Writer

Contributors:

Lisbit Bailey
Museum Curator (Archivist)

Ted Miles
Reference Librarian

John Muir
Curator, Small Craft

Seth Muir
Education Director,
San Francisco Maritime National Park Association

IN THIS ISSUE:

189 DAYS IN MAY: A ROW ACROSS THE PACIFIC
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH
NEW KIDS PROGRAM: MARITIME STORYTIME
ADULT MARITIME SKILLS CLASS: HALF HULL MODELMAKING
NEW IN THE MARITIME LIBRARY
NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS
LINKS

Welcome to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, your national park on San Francisco's historic waterfront. Feel free to forward this newsletter, in whole or in part, and enter into blogs and wikis. To receive Fathom This! monthly, or to unsubscribe, please email the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Fair winds, and we hope to see you here!

189 DAYS IN MAY: A ROW ACROSS THE NORTH PACIFIC

Thursday, February 18, 7:30pm, in the Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building (museum building) Bayview Room, 900 Beach Street, at Polk. Free admission.

Captain Mick Dawson and Chris Martin will share stories and will show film footage from their remarkable 5,000 journey from Japan to San Francisco in their rowboat, *Bojangles*. Storms, whales, hunger, and more! Join us for this exciting evening.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

African Americans have played a major role in our nation's maritime history. Join us throughout February for programs and exhibits as we celebrate national African American History Month. Programs include **The Saga of William Shorey**, a power point presentation and talk on the life of this Bay Area whaling captain; **Maritime Routes of the Underground Railroad**, exploring this significant but little-known aspect of the routes to freedom, and **Chanteys: The African American and Caribbean Connection**, when you will be invited to sing along on work songs of sailors, stevedores, and fishermen. View the photographic exhibit of African Americans in Maritime History in the Visitor Center. For dates, times, fees, and for more information, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, or call the Visitor Center at 415-447-5000, open M-F 9:30am-5:00pm.

NEW KIDS PROGRAM: MARITIME STORYTIME

Saturday, February 6, 11am and 1pm, in the Visitor Center Sailor's Den. Free admission.

Join Park Guide Denise McEvoy as she relates the 1887 adventures of two stowaway kittens aboard the *Balclutha*. Hear what it was like to be a sailor on the ship's maiden voyage sailing the rough Cape Horn passage to San Francisco.

ADULT MARITIME SKILLS CLASS: HALF HULL MODELMAKING

On Hyde Street Pier. Tuesday, February 23 and Thursday, February 25, 7-9pm, and Sunday, February 28, 9am-5pm. Tuition: \$125. Materials fee, \$50. Limited enrollment. To enroll: Contact Mariah Gardner, 415-292-6664, or mgardner@maritime.org, or Seth Muir: 415-215-6291, smuir@maritime.org.

Come down to Hyde Street Pier for hands-on classes in sailing, sailing, traditional boatbuilding, and maritime crafts, organized by the park's cooperating San Francisco Maritime National Park Association. This month, a course in **half hull modelmaking** is being offered. Carve a half hull scale model. Choose from nautical architectural drawings in the park's collection, or supply your own. Open to all abilities. This class meets for three sessions. Tuition: \$125, materials fee, \$50. Instructor: Sean Koomen.

For a complete schedule of classes, please see <http://www.maritime.org>. Half of all proceeds from adult education classes go directly to non-profit education programs for at-risk youth.

NEW IN THE MARITIME LIBRARY

Located at Fort Mason Center, Building E, 3rd Floor. The library is open 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am-5pm. Also by appointment, Mon-Fri afternoons. Immediate appointments usually available. Appointments and information: 415-561-7030, or ring doorbell.

The Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Library have published a new book the World War I wooden ship building program. *A Fleet To Be Forgotten* by Louis A. Hough is a detailed look at the West Coast side of the program.

There are always new Acadia titles to look at. Their *Images Of America* series has *Chinese In Mendocino County*. These new arrivals in this country played a wider role than is generally supposed in California development.

NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Historic Documents located on the top floor of the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Appointments: 415-561-7030.

The Captain Henry E. Sievers collection consists of records and correspondence during the 45-year career of this sea captain, employed for many years by American President Lines. Includes his memoirs, entitled *North Pacific*.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association. The park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org>. The park library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org>. The park living History program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://corsair-viking.org>. The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

This publication is strictly for informational purposes and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Department of Interior, the National Park Service, or the park.